

Letter from Alvin E. Pope to Alexander Graham Bell, September 2, 1903

DAVID R. FRANCIS, President WALTER B. STEVENS, Secretary WM. H. THOMPSON, Treasurer JAMES L. BLAIR, General Counsel WORLD'S FAIR, ST. LOUIS 1904 LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXPOSITION FREDERICK J. V. SKIFF, Director of Exhibits. HOWARD J. ROGERS, Chief of Department. EDUCATION JOHN SCHROERS, Chairman of Committee St. Louis, U. S. A. September 2, 1903 Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, Beinn Bhreagh, Baddeck, Victoria County, Nova Scotia. Dear Dr. Bell:—

At our request President Francis issued an invitation to Helen Keller, Miss Anna M. Sullivan, and her mother Mrs. Keller to be the guests of the Fair a week in October. The 18th of that month will be known as Helen Keller Day. We expect to call International Congresses of Instructors of the deaf and the blind at that time. The matter of the Congresses was discussed before the Association. The party has accepted the President's invitation, and I have made arrangements for every detail of their entertainment excepting the use of a private car. We wish to secure a private car for the party from New York to St. Louis and return. I have taken up the matter with Mr. Alexander J. Cossett, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia, Pa. I stated in my letter that the arrival of Helen Keller would be of no less interest than the visit of President Roosevelt, and if you could convince the Railroad Company of this, they will not hesitate to furnish us with a private car. I wish you would write Mr. Cossett a short note, requesting that he allow us the use of a private car. I wish to secure every comfort possible for the party and it will be very disagreeable for them to travel on excursion trains during the Fair period.

Hoping you can be of some assistance to us in this matter, I remain,

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Yours very truly, Alvin E. Pope